Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2012/06/26 : CIA-RDP98S00099R000500920029-3

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| IN NFAC'S RESEARCH PROGRAM  Late 29 OCT 1980  Dr. GORDON  AND   | REMARKS:                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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#### 28 October 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Research Planning Steering Group Members

Issue Team Leaders

FROM : Chief, Production Planning and Review Group

NFAC Planning, Management, and Evaluation Staff

SUBJECT : NFAC Priority Research Issues

- 1. Mr. Clarke has approved the priority research issues, team leaders, and management plan developed by the Research Planning Steering Group. A copy of the approved list of issues, team leaders, and management plan is attached. By way of example, a mockup of a hypothetical research plan is also attached.
- 2. Mr. Hineman would like to meet with the team leaders in Room 2E60 on Monday, 3 November, at 1400 hours to kick-off their work on each of the issues. Office directors should indicate to PMES/PPRG by noon 31 October which issue teams they want to be represented on and who their representative will be. PPRG will then provide a consolidated list to each team leader as well as a computer run of all planned and recently completed research relating to his or her priority issue. The computer runs and lists of team members will be available at the meeting on 3 November.
- 3. At the meeting, OSR will also describe its recent experience in developing inter-office research plans. The main task for the team leaders will be to develop such a plan for their issues for review and approval by the RPSG and D/NFAC by late November. They then will be responsible for managing and monitoring progress on the plan and reporting back to the RPSG at the end of each quarter--or earlier if problems are encountered.

Attachments:
As Stated

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## PROPOSED PRIORITY RESEARCH ISSUES AND TEAM LEADERS

| 1.              | USSR: MILITARY AND DECLINING S          | FOREIGN POLICE OVIET ECONOMIC | Y CONSEQUENCES<br>GROWTH | S IN THE 1980s OF         |               |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
|                 | Team Leader:                            |                               | SR                       |                           | 25 <b>X</b> 1 |
| 2.              | OUTLOOK FOR THE WESTERN ALLIANCE        |                               |                          |                           |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            | C                             | )PA                      |                           | 25X1          |
| 3.              | THE COMPATIBILITY O                     | F CHINA'S INTER               | RNATIONAL ROLE           | E IN THE 1980s WITH       |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            |                               | OPA                      |                           | 25 <b>X</b> 1 |
| 4.              | THE DYNAMICS OF REV                     | OLUTION IN CENT               | TRAL AMERICA             |                           |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            | C                             | <b>OG</b> SR             |                           | 25 <b>X</b> 1 |
| 5.              | PROSPECTS FOR MIDDLE                    | E POWER LEADERS               | SHIP IN THE WE           | ESTERN HEMISPHERE         |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            |                               | NIC                      |                           | 25X1          |
| 6.              | PROSPECTS FOR DISRUI                    | PTION OF VITAL                | OIL SUPPLIES             | FROM THE PERSIAN GULF     |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            | John Helgerso                 | on, OPA                  |                           |               |
| 7.              | IMPLICATIONS FOR US<br>CHANGE IN EASTER | AND SOVIET INT<br>N EUROPE    | ERESTS OF POL            | LITICAL AND ECONOMIC      |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            | OE                            | R                        |                           | 25X1          |
| 8.              | THE SECURITY OF THE                     | MAJOR US POLIC                | Y INVESTMENT             | IN EGYPT                  |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            |                               | OGSR                     |                           | 25 <b>X</b> 1 |
| 9.              | STRATEGIC RELATIONS                     | AND RESOURCES                 | IN THE SOUTHE            | RN AFRICA TRIANGLE        |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            | , OP                          | A                        |                           | 25 <b>X</b> 1 |
| 10.             | IMPLICATIONS OF JAPA<br>IN THE 1980s    | AN's EXPANDING                | INTERNATIONAL            | ROLE FOR US INTERESTS     |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            |                               | OER                      |                           | 25X1          |
| 11.             | THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE                   | ES: CONTROL O                 | R COMPETITION            |                           |               |
|                 | Team Leader:                            |                               | OSR                      |                           | 25X1          |
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#### PROPOSED PROCEDURES FOR DEVELOPING AND MONITORING NFAC's RESEARCH PROGRAM

#### PART I: Priority Issues

- A. Selection of Priority Research Issues.
  - 1. Offices, NIOs, and SRP propose priority research issues.
  - 2. PPRG/PMES collates and organizes submissions for <u>review by</u> Offices, NIOs, and <u>SRP</u>.
  - 3. RPSG selects 6-12 issues for priority treatment by NFAC.
- B. Preparation of Research Plan.
  - 1. D/NFAC (or RPSG) designates Project Leader and an Issue Team to develop a research program for each key issue.
  - 2. Issue Team refines the issue and defines the subordinate, substantive lines of inquiry and key research themes appropriate for its issue.
  - 3. Issue Team (and other experts, as appropriate) proposes a research plan (building block and overview papers) for the key research themes and determines the resources required.
  - 4. RPSG reviews and recommends to D/NFAC approval of final research plan. It also identifies resource implications and recommends adjustments needed to produce planned research.
  - 5. D/NFAC approves final plan and shifts resources as required.
- C. Project leader for each priority issue is responsible for managing the research plan appropriate to that issue and for monitoring the status of related projects.
  - 1. Project leader provides a quarterly account of work status or completion of projects in the plan to RPSG members, Issue Team, and PPRG/PME.
- D. RPSG reviews status of research program every six months, selects new issues and teams, drops existing issues/teams as appropriate; status report published.
- E. Research projects scheduled for completion during the next six months are entered in NFAC Quarterly Production Plan by originating Office.

### ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

### PART II: Other Office Research

- A. Preparation by individual NFAC Offices every six months of list of other long-range research projects not already reflected in Part I.
  - 1. Offices identify projects or lines of research and estimate level of effort (office man-years and cost of external contracts) to be devoted to these "other" research plans.
  - 2. Office plans are collated by PPRG, organized by subject/region, and circulated to NFAC offices, NIOs, and SRP for comment and further refinement.
  - 3. Office, NIO, and SRP comments and agreed changes are collected by PPRG; Chairman, RPSG, decides whether it is necessary to organize interoffice working groups to develop additional joint projects, or resolve any remaining problems of duplication, conflict, gaps in coverage, etc. (New priority issues may also emerge at this point.)
  - 4. Final list of "other research" is approved by RPSG and published semiannually, along with plans for Part I.
- B. Research projects scheduled for completion within next six months are entered into NFAC Quarterly Production Plan by originating office.

#### PRIORITY RESEARCH ISSUE MODEL

#### ISSUE #I: Soviet Military Policies and Forces in the 1980s.

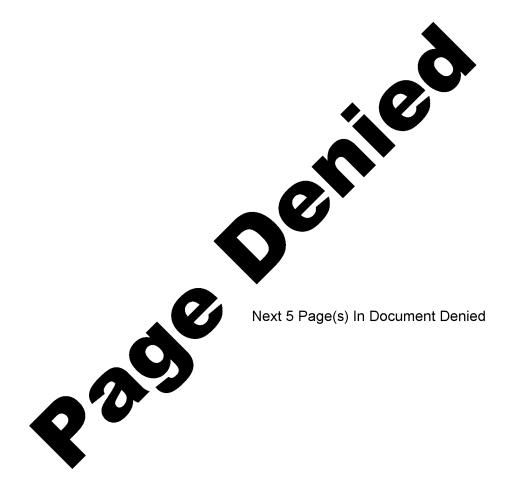
Purpose: To survey the development of Soviet military power and assess the implications of the overall trends for US-Soviet relations in the 1980s. We will also examine the major factors likely to affect the Soviet defense program (e.g., Soviet economic performance, leadership succession, perceived military threats and opportunities, technological progress) and attempt to flag the issue areas for US policy.

Research Problems: Information on various elements of the Soviet defense program is now fragmented among more narrowly focused estimates and assessments. There is a need to coordinate the research and analytical efforts now under way or planned on the aforementioned factors likely to affect Soviet defense programs in the 1980s. We need to integrate this research and analysis to improve the understanding of US policymakers on the lines and directions of Soviet military programs and their significance to the United States in the coming decade.

Scope of the Program: The program has three general phases and seeks to focus adequate research efforts by the individual NFAC Offices on the key factors likely to affect Soviet military programs in the 1980s. The program consists of some 45 research projects, an initial baseline report on Soviet military trends, and a final overview paper to present the major findings:

- 1. <u>Initial Research</u> on trends in Soviet military forces and production since 1965. This work is nearing completion. An OSR follow-on study assessing the implications of these trends through 1985 has been dropped, but the data compiled will provide a base line for other projects.
- 2. Interoffice building block research projects exploring in detail seven key research areas relating to technology development, defense expenditures, industrial commitments, and leadership prospects, goals, options and decisionmaking. Some 16 research projects had been completed or were about to be published as of July 1980; 15 had been cancelled or subsumed in other work. Work is in various stages of preparation on about 20 remaining identified projects and is unscheduled or in an exploratory stage on several others.
- 3. Overview paper to present major findings of the projects undertaken in interoffice research plans and to provide the most authoritative analysis possible of likely developments of Soviet military policy and forces in the 1980s. This interoffice effort is planned to begin in the fall of 1980 and be completed in early 1981.

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